

The Public Board of Trustees meeting of the Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence Charter School was held on Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

Sam Ceccacci, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

The group joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Sam Ceccacci, President	Present	Mary Beth D'Andrea	Present
Dr. Catherine Richmond-Cullen, Vice President	Present	Al Dorunda	Present
Dino Galli, Secretary	Present	Wayne Evans	Present
Michael Barbetti, Treasurer	Absent	Dr. Fran Langan	Present
Suzanne Ambrogio-Jaffe	Present	Judy Price	Absent
Laurie Cadden	Present		

Nine (9) Trustees present, two (2) absent.

June 2026 Public Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda:

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

Visitors may provide comment on items listed on the agenda, Names and School District of residence will be recorded before remarks are made.

I.	Approval of May 19, 2026 Minutes	Sam Ceccacci
II.	President's Report	Sam Ceccacci
III.	Finance/Facilities Committee	Mike Barbetti
	1. May 2026 Financial Report	
	2. Certified School Nurse Employment Agreement	
IV.	Personnel Committee	Dino Galli
	1. June 2026 Personnel Activity Report (Attachment F.)	
V.	Nominating Committee	
	1. Approve 2026-2027 Slate of Officers	
	2. Second Amendment to By-laws	
VI.	School Matters	Joe Ross
	1. Administrative Updates	
	2. Annual Security Report review	
VII.	New Business	Sam Ceccacci
	Adjournment	

Public Participation:

Sam Ceccacci asked if anyone wanted to address the Board. There were no comments.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: *Approve minutes from the May 19, 2026 HGMICS Board Meeting*

The motion was made by Judy Price and seconded by Wayne Evans.

All Trustees voted yes with 11 Trustees present.

President's Report:

Sam Ceccacci delivered the following President's report:

The end of the 2025-2026 School Year came on Thursday June 4, 2026 with Commencement Activities for the 35 members of the Graduating Class. The tradition of having the class graduating in front of family, friends, faculty and fellow students looking on from the hill is quickly becoming a Howard Gardner Tradition as we move into the fifteenth year of providing outstanding educational experiences for our students. Our gratitude to Principal McEnery and the entire staff for another outstanding school year.

Preparation now begins in earnest for the 2026-2027 school year. Besides academic preparation, major renovation projects to the boiler and the roof are targeted for completion.

Of prime importance is the charter renewal application process which will begin in July and continue into the school year with a February 2027 submission and with approval expected to follow shortly thereafter.

In the meantime we wish everyone associated with Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence Charter School a healthy, happy and refreshing summertime experience.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Ceccacci
Board Chairman

Finance Facilities Committee:

May 2026 Financial Report

Motion: *Approve the Financial Report through May 31, 2026.*

The motion was made by Fran Langan and seconded by Dino Galli.

All Trustees voted yes with 11 Trustees Present.

Certified School Nurse:

Motion: *Approve the Certified School Nurse Agreement for the 2026-2027 School year*

The motion was made by Judy Price and seconded by Dr. Catherine Richmond-Cullen.

All Trustees voted yes with 11 Trustees present.

Personnel Committee:

June 2026 Personnel Activity report was presented for review by Dino Galli. The report contains two employee resignations, and a recommendation for hiring four 2026-2027 School Year positions. The recommendations are for Robert Gentilezza (Ex Director of Integrated School Operations), Jason Bugno (Math Teacher), Marlene Richardson (Instructional Assistant), and Amy Webber (paraprofessional).

Motion: *Approved the June 2026 Personnel Activity Report as submitted.*

The motion was made by Mike Barbetti and seconded by Fran Langan.
All Trustees voted yes with 11 Trustees present.

Nominating Committee:

The nominating committee presented the following slate of officers for the 2026-2027 School year:
President- Sam Ceccacci, Vice-President- Dr. Catherine Richmond-Cullen, Secretary- Dino Galli, and
Treasurer- Michael Barbetti.

Motion: *Approve the 2026-2027 Slate of Officers as presented*

The motion was made by Judy Price and seconded by Mary Beth D'Andrea
All Trustees voted yes with 11 Trustees present

Motion: *Approve the Second Amendment to the HGMICS By-laws which allow Trustees to be re-appointed to successive terms.*

The motion was made by Catherine Richmond-Cullen and seconded by Dino Galli.
All Trustees voted yes with 11 Trustees present

School Matters

The annual security report was reviewed with the trustess.

CEO Updates

The 2025-2026 School Year was completed with a successful commencement ceremony on June 4th. The ceremony was held on the upper loop and truly is becoming a school-wide celebration. We prepared 35 graduates to move on to high school. The Kindergarten held a step up ceremony on June 3rd for our 48 students. The kindergarten processed to the stage escorted by our 8th grade students in academic regalia. Both ceremonies were conducted without any issues.

One of the major accomplishments this year was the continued academic improvement of our students. Our talented teacher staff, led by Principal McEnery, continues to challenge our students to grow academically in innovative ways that incorporate multiple intelligences. We continue to adhere to all PDE state standards, and continually look for data-driven ways to enhance the educational experience.

Our student services department under the direction of Cathy Opshinsky continues to meet every student at their level. Consistent with trends regionally, state-wide, and nationally, we are experiencing an uptick in students that have been identified as special education, and are adding staff to address the expanded services required. School climate remains central to providing an environment conducive to learning. Dean Booth has guided the response for student discipline issues and oversees a school-wide PBIS program that has received awards for implementation and fidelity.

The summer months will be utilized to prepare for next school year. HR and enrollment director Renee Dougherty is in the process of recruiting and onboarding staff next year. Additionally, we are in the process of completing enrollment for the 2026-2027 year consistent with our admissions process through the March lottery. Operations Director Patty Mickavicz is in the process of submitting all PIMS mandated

annual reports which are close to completion. IT director Matt Snyder is in the homestretch to convert our student information system to Power School. This six-month migration will be fully implemented for July 1st. Facility director Dennis Gavin has some major renovations this summer. We are scheduled to have a major boiler replacement and are in the process of preparing a bid package for roof replacement of the elementary school. Additionally, he will oversee some internal renovations to increase the educational spaces in the existing building.

As we prepare for the end of the fiscal year, the school remains in a very solvent financial position. Business Manager John Marsico deftly navigated the state budget impasse, and we emerged a stronger organization. We are in the process of submitting required end-of-year financial documents to PDE, and will begin preparations for the annual audit. Preliminary work has started to form an investment committee and an RFQ was sent to local financial institutions.

Next school year will mark our 15th year as a charter school. We are in the developmental stages of preparing a yearlong celebration of our school. The theme will be "**HGS- 15 years of growing every mind**". A proposal will be submitted to the Board in August 2026.

The major initiative that will be occurring is the charter renewal application that will be submitted in early spring 2027. A rudimentary timeline is:

July 2026- Letter of Intent to authorizing school districts

July-October 2026- Staff preparation for the renewal application

November 2026- Draft application for Board review

December-January 2027- Final edits and preparation

February 2027- Submission of application.

In closing, on behalf of the students, staff, faculty, and administration of the school, I would like to express our gratitude to the Board of Trustees for their expert governance, guidance, and leadership. As a school community, we are fortunate to have such a talented and diverse group leading us to navigate the challenges of public education.

Joe Ross

CEO

New Business:

There was no new business

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 pm.

Next Meeting Date: August 18,2026 @6:00 pm